

UNCLASSIFIED
Department of State

7/11/79

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-15

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BUENOS 05563 111926Z

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-05 COME-00 CIAE-00 EE-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 ICAE-00 /045 V
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MESSAGE TO AFL-CIO/AIFLD.
CASTRO

AK 195

P R 111907Z JUL 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1445
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

BUENOS AIRES 5563

MEXICO CITY FOR NIXON

E.O. 12065 GDS 7-11-85 (THAYER, YVONNE) DR-P
TAGS ELAB, SHUM, AR
SUBJECT (U) SIX ARGENTINE LABOR LEADERS RELEASED; TRIACA RETURNS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 3496

1. (U) SIX LABOR LEADERS JAILED SINCE APRIL 27 FOR CALLING A STRIKE WERE RELEASED FROM PREVENTIVE ARREST ON JULY 7 BY AN ARGENTINE APPEALS COURT. CITING "INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE" UNDER APPLICABLE LAW NO 21,400, THE COURT REVOKED THE PREVENTIVE ARREST ORDERS AGAINST ROBERTO GARCIA (TAXIS), ROBERTO DIGAN (TOBACCO WORKERS), RAUL RAVITTI (RAILWAY WORKERS), ENRIQUE MICO (GARMENT WORKERS), DEMETRIO LORENZO (FOOD WORKERS), AND JOSE LUIS CASTILLO (BOAT MECHANICS). THE COURT ORDERED THAT THE INVESTIGATION INTO POSSIBLE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTED BY THE SIX BE CONTINUED. THE SIX WERE THE ONLY ONES TURNED OVER FOR TRIAL AND THE LAST SIX TO BE RELEASED OF THE 30 LABOR LEADERS DETAINED IN LATE APRIL FOR THE STRIKE CALL.

2. (U) LABOR LEADER JORGE ALBERTO TRIACA, WHO REPRESENTED ARGENTINE LABOR UNIONS AT THE ILO MEETING IN GENEVA LAST MONTH, REFUTE OFFICIAL CRITICISM OF HIS DECLARATIONS MADE IN GENEVA, CLAIMING THAT HIS STATEMENTS REFLECTED THE SENTIMENTS OF THE ARGENTINE LABOR MOVEMENT. TRIACA, WHO AT THE ILO ACCUSED GOA OF COMMITTING "ECONOMIC SUBVERSION" THROUGH ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES, WAS PUBLICLY CRITICIZED BY LABOR MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY AMERICO DAHER AND BY ECONOMY MINISTER MARTINEZ DE HOZ FOLLOWING HIS REMARKS IN GENEVA. TRIACA DEFENDED HIMSELF AS ACCURATELY REPRESENTING WORKERS' COMPLAINTS, UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES 0 JULY 6 FROM A TRIP WITH OTHER UNION LEADERS TO GENEVA AND THE US. REPORTED SEPARATELY IN THE NEWS WERE REMARKS FROM PETROLEUM WORKERS UNION LEADER ANTONIO CASSIA ON JULY 6 CRITICIZING TRIACA FOR AIRING PROBLEMS IN AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM THAT SHOULD BE RESOLVED WITHIN ARGENTINA.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE DISAPPROVAL BY SOME OFFICIALS OF TRIACA'S STATEMENT, HIS REMARKS IN GENEVA ARE COMMONLY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY CLEARED BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDING GENERAL VIOLA HIMSELF. GOVERNMENT LABOR OFFICIALS APPARENTLY REMAIN ON GOOD TERMS WITH TRIACA, HAVING INTERVIEWED AT HIS

URGING LAST WEEKEND TO OBTAIN A VISA TO THE US FOR A SON OF ABDALA BALUCH, WHO COLLAPSED IN THE US AND DIED ON JULY 9 EN ROUTE HOME FROM GENEVA. END COMMENT.

4. (U) ALSO RELEASED WAS HECTOR HUGO CEBALLOS, WHO WAS HELD IN PARANA, ENTRE RIOS PROVINCE, FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PARIL 27 STRIKE CALL.

5. (U) DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE OF THIS

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

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